



Brownfields 2017 Area-Wide Planning Grant Fact Sheet

Lorain County, OH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through competitive grant programs for brownfields site assessment, site cleanup, revolving loan funds, area-wide planning, and job training. Additional funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program

EPA's Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program assists communities in responding to local brownfields challenges, particularly where multiple brownfield sites are in close proximity, connected by infrastructure, and limit the economic, environmental and social prosperity of their surroundings. This program enhances EPA's core brownfields assistance programs by providing grant funding to communities so they can perform the research needed to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategies for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. The resulting area-wide plans provide direction for future brownfields area improvements that are protective of public health and the environment, economically viable, and reflective of the community's vision for the area.

Project Description

\$200,000.00

EPA has selected Lorain County as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant recipient. The county will work with the community and other stakeholders to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategy for the Broadway and 28th Street Corridor in the City of Lorain. The project area has been impacted by the downturn in the domestic steel production industry and has experienced disinvestment, poverty, and abandonment. It is home to many sensitive populations, minorities, non-English speaking residents, children, and the elderly. The area contains vacant industrial, commercial, and residential structures, which create hazardous conditions for residents and the environment. The catalyst site is the 19.5-acre Pellet Terminal site, which was formerly an iron ore shipping dock. The area-wide plan will enable the county to transform the project area into a revitalized, mixed-use, and sustainable community featuring nature trails that connect to open access of Lake Erie. Addressing the lakefront catalyst site is expected to bring back commerce to downtown Lorain. Key partners who will work with the county on this project include the City of Lorain, Lorain Growth Corporation, Charleston Village, and Black River AOC (Area of Concern).

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
(312) 886-9493
EPA Region 5 Brownfields Web site
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-illinois-indiana-michigan-minnesota-ohio-and>)

Grant Recipient: Lorain County, OH
(440) 328-2323

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.